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Thousands build skills training in 86th Training Division's Combat Support Training Exercise 86-24-02 at Fort McCoy

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

More than 6,000 service members descended upon Fort McCoy at the beginning of August 2024 to train and build their Soldier skills in the 86th Training Division's Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) 86-24-02 from Aug. 3-17 at Fort McCoy.

The 86th Training Division, a tenant organization at Fort McCoy, conducts a CSTX annually at the installation.

In a video about CSTX 86-24-02 by Staff Sgt. Samuel Conrad with the 326th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment at <https://www.dvidshub.net/video/934058/86th-training-division-conducts-cstx-24-02>, Col. David Nash, deputy commander of the 86th Training Division, discusses how the exercise is unique.

"A Combat Support Training Exercise, or CSTX, is the Army Reserve's last fully evaluated — externally evaluated — collective training exercise. It is to validate that units are ready to go into their available year into a (Forces Command) ready pool of units that could be picked to deploy worldwide. The CSTX is the Army Reserve's equivalent of a combat training center (CTC).

"A lot of these units don't get the opportunity to go to a CTC because the CTC is built for really that brigade combat team forward and ... maybe a division construct. At echelon, in the size that these units are, they really need a different exercise design to get after all of their individual trading objectives at the same time, forcing them to work together across organizations to develop the relationships to get after how integrated sustainment, the casualty evacuation, and replacement process works."

Units like the 652nd Multi-Role Bridge Company were a unique addition to the exercise. The unit completed a training event on the Mississippi River at Fountain City, Wis. They also trained on Big Sandy Lake on Fort McCoy's South Post where the lake has special areas set up so units can do this exact kind of training.

The 652nd has Soldiers in one of the Army's most unique specialties (MOS), too — 12C, bridge crewmember. According to the Army job description for the MOS, as a bridge crewmember, "you'll help construct bridges and rafts to help Soldiers cross rough terrain, bodies of water, and barriers they might encounter in the field. You'll help create floating bridges and rafts from a boat as well as help combat engineers create safe

(See CSTX, Page 4)



Soldiers with the 652nd Multi-Role Bridge Company lead a training exercise Aug. 13 at Big Sandy Lake on South Post at Fort McCoy as part of the 86th Training Division's Combat Support Training Exercise 86-24-02. They were supported by crews from the 5th Battalion, 159th General Support Aviation Battalion of Fort Eustis, Va., flying CH-47 Chinook helicopters.

Photos by Amanda Clark/Fort McCoy Multimedia-Visual Information Office



Photo by Staff Sgt. Trenton Lowery/181st Multi-Functional Training Brigade Public Affairs

Soldiers at Fort McCoy for training in the Combat Support Training Exercise 86-24-02 engage in a training scenario Aug. 13 on post.



Photo by Claudia Neve

Soldiers drive in a convoy Aug. 14 during operations for the Combat Support Training Exercise 86-24-02 at Fort McCoy.

New Chief of Army Reserve visits troops at CSTX 86-24-02, Global Medic at Fort McCoy



Photo by Master Sgt. Joseph Vine

Maj. Gen. Robert D. Harter, chief of the Army Reserve and commanding general of U.S. Army Reserve Command, visits with troops participating in the 86th Training Division's Combat Support Training Exercise 86-24-02 on Aug. 8 at Fort McCoy.

Maj. Gen. Robert D. Harter, a lieutenant general selectee and the newly selected Chief of the Army Reserve and commanding general of U.S. Army Reserve Command, visited Fort McCoy from Aug. 7-9 to visit the 86th Training Division's Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) 86-24-02 as well as the 2024 Global Medic Exercise.

On Aug. 7, the Chief of Army Reserve Facebook page showed the new Army Reserve leader making an early morning visit to Fort McCoy's newly renovated Rumpel Fitness Center. Rumpel Fitness Center reopened May 1 after 18 months and millions of dollars worth of upgrades to the facility.

During the grand opening, Fort McCoy Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) Di-

rector Patric McGuane recognized the Army Reserve support for the facility.

"This major renovation of our primary fitness center has taken 18 months to complete, and we want to give our thanks to R.J. Jurowski Construction Inc. (of Whitehall, Wis.) for their design and work on making this happen," McGuane said. "Thank you guys. ... This project also would not have been completed without the support of the United States Army Reserve, (Installation Management Command), and our G-9 FMWR leadership at Fort Liberty (N.C.) and Fort Sam Houston (Texas)."

Besides experiencing Fort McCoy's upgraded fitness facilities Aug. 7, Harter also went to the Global Medic training. The Chief of Army Reserve Facebook (See CHIEF, Page 3)

Fort McCoy LRC's food-service team supports CSTX 86-24-02, 2024 Global Medic

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Thousands of troops participated in the 86th Training Division's Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) 86-24-02 as well as the 2024 Global Medic exercise and among the top priorities for exercise planners was making sure those troops had the food supplies needed for meals, and more.

Enter the Fort McCoy food-service team. The installation's food-service team ensures that need is always met, said Fort McCoy Food Program Manager Andy Pisney with the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center (LRC).

That team includes the LRC Food Program Management Office (FPMO) and the LRC Subsistence Supply Management Office (SSMO; the full food-service contractor DCT Inc.; and food suppliers, such as Sysco Foods of Baraboo, Wis.

The 86th's CSTX and Global Medic took place from Aug. 3-17 with 6,000-plus troops participating, said 86th Training Division Public Affairs Officer Maj. Jon Dahl. With that many troops, Pisney said the SSMO was busy providing constant support.

"The SSMO is one of the busiest organizations during any large training event," Pisney said in a previous news article. "The office orders, receives, and distributes all food and rations necessary for each exercise as well as for units conducting weekend, extended combat, or annual training."

He also noted that members of the SSMO oversee the installation central fuel facility, so they pull dual duty at both 490 where they unload, store, and issue rations, and they also unload fuel and maintain the Central Fuel Point at building 3010.

"The SSMO staff provides service to exercises seven days a week," Pisney said.

By the numbers, for food-service support, the team provided a significant number of items throughout the training, Pisney said.

Pisney said for food service the SSMO supported CSTX/Global Medic with Class I in the following quantities: Meals, Ready-to-Eat (MREs), 100,992 meals; Unitized Group Rations (UGRs), 99,316 servings; UHT milk, 51,840 containers; bagged ice, 110,140 pounds; and additional enhancements such as cereal, fresh fruit, salad mix, and salad dressings.

The Unitized Group Rations were likely the biggest items in use by the numerous Army Reserve field feeding teams participating in the training.

"The Unitized Group Rations require food-service capability — a food-service specialist — to prepare," Pisney



Photos by Scott T. Sturkol

(Both photos) M1075 Palletized Load System trucks and trailers are loaded outside the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center Subsistence Supply Management Office on Aug. 8 at Fort McCoy.



said. "These rations are configured in 50-person modules and contain meat, starch, vegetables, condiments, and beverages."

During the CSTX/Global Medic training, the field feeding teams preparing meals in the field were: 764th Field Feeding Team, 765th Field Feeding Team, 766th Field Feeding Team, 767th Field Feeding Team, 776th Field Feeding Team, 798th Field Feeding Team, and 799th Field Feeding Team.

It wasn't uncommon throughout the exercise to see several M1075 Palletized Load System trucks and trailers filling (See FOOD, Page 5)

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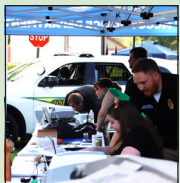
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NEWS

Fort McCoy hosts staff delegation visit; provides familiarization of installation

STORY & PHOTOS BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Fort McCoy hosted a Congressional staff delegation visit Aug. 8 to the installation to familiarize the staffers with the post and its many capabilities and capacity for training, and much more.

The visitors first received an installation briefing about the Fort McCoy Garrison and the installation overall that was supported by garrison command team members as well as garrison leaders from each directorate.

The staffers learned about Fort McCoy's history where the post is named for Robert Bruce McCoy. The son of a Civil War captain, history shows McCoy was a prominent local resident who, throughout his lifetime, served as a lawyer; district attorney; county judge; and mayor of Sparta, Wis. He reached the rank of major general during his 31 years of distinguished military service, which included service in the Spanish-American War, the police action in Mexico, and World War I.

The Congressional staffers also learned how from 1990 to the present day, new construction projects have served to modernize the post's infrastructure, facilities, and training areas. The hundreds of millions of dollars invested in the post have benefited Fort McCoy as well the local economy, with the majority of the new construction contracts having been awarded to regional firms.

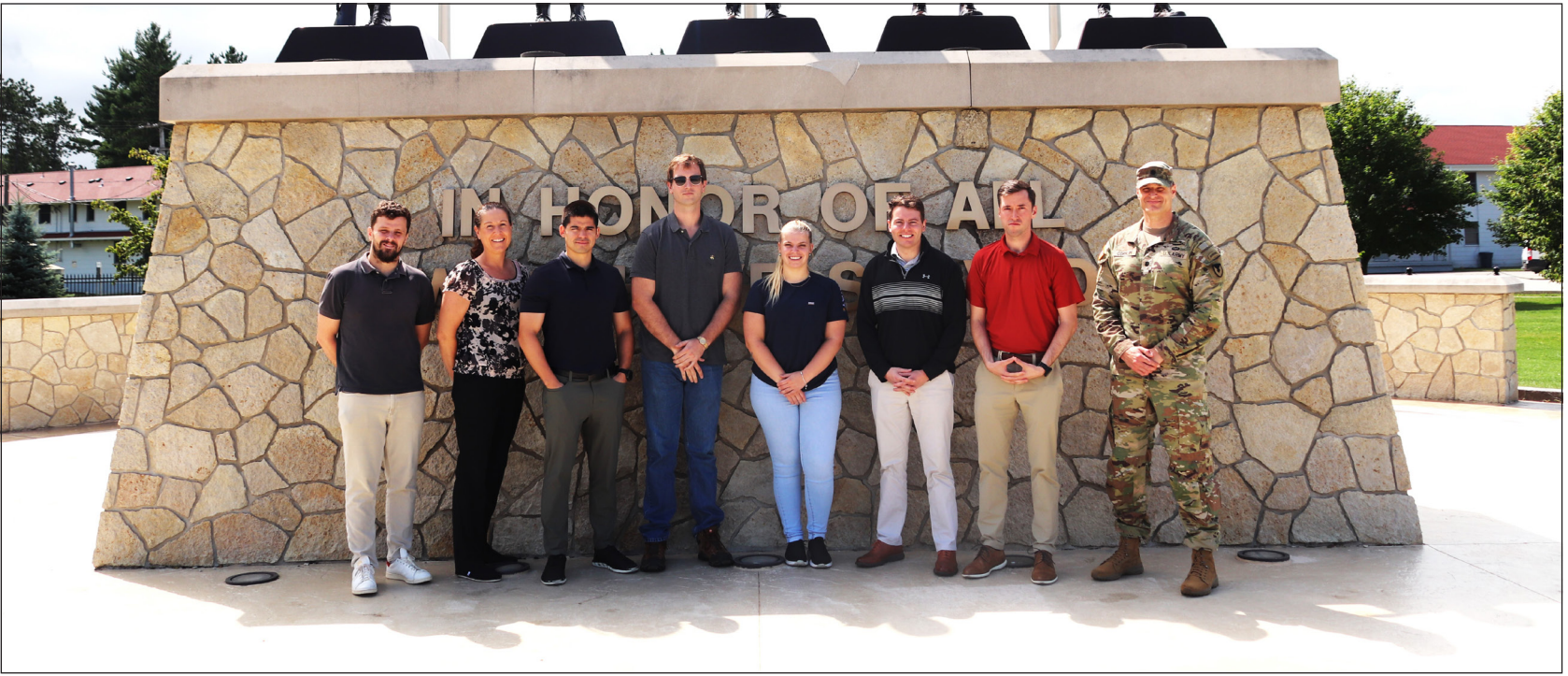
Through the briefing they also learned how the installation has provided support and facilities for the training of 100,000 personnel annually for nearly every year since 1984. They learned how the installation has served in a continuing capacity as an Army power-projection site by processing and preparing military personnel for duty in overseas contingency operations. How from Sept. 11, 2001, through Dec. 30, 2011, 140,197 military personnel from 2,416 units mobilized or demobilized at Fort McCoy during the installation's efforts to support the war on terrorism.

And in the briefing, they also likely learned that today, the post provides full-scale support to its customers at each juncture of its training triad — transient, institutional, and exercise. And that in fiscal year 2023, Fort McCoy's total economic impact to local economies was an estimated \$1.38 billion.

Following the briefing, the staffers received a cantonment area tour of fa-



(Above) Fort McCoy leaders visit with Congressional staff members Aug. 8 as part of a Congressional staff delegation visit at the installation. (Below) Congressional staff members visit the Fort McCoy Commemorative Area on Aug. 8 as part of visit.



cilities with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works Director Liane Haun and Fort McCoy Deputy Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Mike Corkum. This included seeing ongoing military construction as well as a visit to the installation's historic Commemorative Area where

they checked out a small part of the area and got their photo taken by Veterans Memorial Plaza.

The visit continued with lunch at McCoy's Community Center, then a visit to the Medical Simulation Training Center, and stops at the Fort McCoy's simula-

tion's training area and other training areas.

According to Fort McCoy Garrison leaders, visits like these are intended to build on relationships with other government personnel and serve as an opportunity to establish further communi-

cation and awareness.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on Facebook by searching "ftmccoy," on Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fortmccoywi>, and on X (formerly Twitter) by searching "usagmccoy."

Fort McCoy supports ceremony for opening of new Women's Health Center at Tomah VAMC

STORY & PHOTO BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Several personnel from Fort McCoy were in attendance to support the grand opening ceremony of the new Women's Health Center at the Tomah Veterans Administration (VA) Medical Center complex July 30 in Tomah, Wis.

Members of the Fort McCoy Garrison leadership team, including Garrison Commander Col. Sheyla Baez-Ramirez and Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Calarco, the garrison command sergeant major, attended the event with several other garrison team members to represent the post as part of the event.

During the event, Tomah VA Public Affairs Officer Christie Clark served as master of ceremonies. Speakers included Chaplain Tara Shilts who provided the invocation and benediction; Tomah VA Director Karen Long; Dr. Mary Ellis, Chief of Staff at Tomah VA; and Dr. Jacquelyn Paykel, Women's Health Center director.

Tomah VA Medical Center officials also gathered to have a ribbon-cutting event as part of the ceremony.

A Facebook post by the Tomah VA Medical Center staff later in the day discussed the importance of the center's opening.

"Today marked an incredible day at Tomah VA Medical Center, as we celebrated the grand opening and ribbon cutting of the Women's Health Center," the post states. "It was truly inspiring to witness the strong turnout of women veterans, community members, military and veteran organizations joining forces for this momentous occasion. We take great pride in honoring and standing behind the remarkable women who have selflessly served our country. Thank you to everyone who joined us today."

Fort McCoy regularly supports events with the Tomah VA Medical Center, especially around Me-



Officials prepare to cut the ribbon during the grand opening ceremony of the Women's Health Center at the Tomah VA complex July 30 in Tomah, Wis. Many community leaders attended the event, including members of the Fort McCoy Garrison leadership team.

morial Day and Veterans Day.

Community outreach also is an important part of the Army mission. According to the Army, as stated at <https://www.army.mil/outreach>, "the Army

is about more than ensuring our national security at home and abroad, it's about giving back and getting to know the communities that support us."

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://>

home.army.mil/mccoy, on Facebook by searching "ftmccoy," on Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fortmccoywi>, and on X (formerly Twitter) by searching "usagmccoy."

Army Reserve command sergeant major visits troops at CSTX 86-24-02, boosts morale

STORY & PHOTO BY STAFF SGT. RACHEL SKOWYRA
326th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Betty, the 15th command sergeant major of the U.S. Army Reserve Command, circulated through the 86th Training Division's Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) 86-24-02 Aug. 9-10 to visit troops and observe combat readiness training.

The CSTX is designed to deliver and enable realistic training in an austere training environment and prepare units for multi-domain large scale combat operations, 86th Training Division planners said.

Betty, who assumed responsibility on May 3, said he visited Fort McCoy to witness CSTX and see Soldiers going through tough, realistic training that they've been working on all year.

The training provided during the CSTX is intended to mimic the battlefield, which gives commanders a better sense of overall unit readiness, trainers said. CSTX provides multi-domain operations training to Reserve forces utilizing cutting edge mission command systems, modern information systems, and innovative training platforms. Betty visited several units while on ground to speak face-to-face with Soldiers, observe training, and increase troop morale.

Army Reserve Sgt. Michael Moto with 652nd Multi-Role Bridge Company said Betty's presence positively affected everyone on the mission because it made them feel important.

"The CSM being here is a pretty big deal," said Mota, "It pushes Soldiers to want to do their best. Morale goes through the roof when (the) CSM talks to them and gives them a boost."

The Army Reserve constantly works to build and maintain a powerful, resilient force that is ready to defeat our enemies in an everchanging landscape, doctrine shows. Soldiers must be ready and capable to conduct a full range of military operations to defeat all enemies regardless of the threats they may pose.

"This event is all about testing your equipment, your skills, to make sure that when we go to fight, when we get all the reps and sets in, that we get after the enemy when in the warzone," said Betty.

Learn more about the Army Reserve by visiting <https://www.usar.army.mil>. See Betty's biography at <https://www.usar.army.mil/>



Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Betty, command sergeant major of the Army Reserve, addresses Soldiers from the 203rd Inland Cargo Transfer Company, Arden Hills, Minn., during the Combat Support Training Exercise 24-02 on Aug. 10 at Fort McCoy.

Leadership/Article-View/Article/1523140/command-sergeant-major-gregory-betty.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/>

[mccoy](https://home.army.mil/mccoy), on Facebook by searching "ftmccoy," on Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fortmccoywi>, and on X (formerly Twitter) by searching "usagmccoy."

2024 Retiree Appreciation Day at Fort McCoy set for Sept. 6

Fort McCoy will host its 2024 Retiree Appreciation Day (RAD) from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 6 in building 905, giving military retirees a chance to catch up with one another and learn more about their benefits.

The first part of this year's event is a prayer breakfast that begins at 7:30 a.m., said Fort McCoy Retirement Services Officer Nicholas Gimson with the Directorate of Human Resources. Retired Army Command Sgt. Maj. Rufus M. Parker will serve as the featured guest speaker for the prayer breakfast.

Following the breakfast, speakers will also include a welcome from Fort McCoy Garrison leadership and briefings from multiple agencies to include the Fort McCoy Retirement Services Office, TriCare representative, a transition assistance advisor, Military One Source, a county Veteran Service Office representative, and many others.

"This event is open to all military retirees, those transitioning into retirement, and their spouses," Gimson said.

Gimson is asking people register for the Retiree Appreciation Day by Aug. 30 at <https://cinvitations.aft.edu/inv/index.cfm?i=854374&k=0A64460A7C53>.

The ultimate goal of a Retiree Appreciation Day is to bring together military retirees and give them an opportunity to receive some of the most up-to-date information on the benefits they are entitled to with a seminar setting, Gimson said.

Attendance to the 2023 Fort McCoy Retiree Appreciation Day is free.

Information is available by calling the Fort McCoy Soldier for Life/Retirement Services Office at 502-898-3716, or by e-mail at usarmy.mccoy.im-com-central.mbx.dhr-rso@mail.mil.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on Facebook by searching "ftmccoy," on Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fortmccoywi>, and on X (formerly Twitter) by searching "usagmccoy."

Also try downloading the My Army Post app to your smartphone and set "Fort McCoy" or another installation as your preferred base. Fort McCoy is also part of Army's Installation Management Command where "We Are The Army's Home."

Also check out the Fort McCoy Honors newsletter for 2024 for retirees at <https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/71349>.

(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office and the Fort McCoy Soldier for Life/Retirement Services Office.)



Hundreds of attendees participate in the 2023 Retiree Appreciation Day in building 2142 on Sept. 8, 2023, at Fort McCoy, Wis. More than 300 military retirees and family members attended the free all-day event at Fort McCoy that included a prayer breakfast, briefings about benefits, giveaways, and more.

Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

Canadian Soldiers visit Fort McCoy's Commemorative Area during 2024 Global Medic exercise

STORY & PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER JONES
Public Affairs Staff

On Aug. 16, more than a dozen Canadian armed forces members participating in the 2024 Global Medic exercise at Fort McCoy took the opportunity to visit the installation's Commemorative Area.

Arriving in Wisconsin on Aug. 3, the soldiers decided to use their free time after field exercises to explore the historical site. Cpl. Noah Smith, a medic with the Canadian Armed Forces, was eager to see the Commemorative Area.

"I've always enjoyed military history," Smith said.

"When I drove by and saw all of the vehicles, immediately I knew that probably must be some kind of museum, so I wanted to stop in and check it out. We had a couple of free days after getting out of the actual field exercise, so we definitely made it a point to stop by and see it."

Smith, who was visiting Wisconsin for the first time, was impressed by the site's authenticity.

"It's the first military museum I've been to where you actually have the original buildings intact and spread out to explore. You can kind of mimic the small base feel of it rather than ones I've been to like Canada's National Military Museum in Ottawa. That one is pretty impressive, but it's all under one roof and they don't have all the original buildings from the time period to walk through. I think this definitely adds to the charm of the Fort McCoy Commemorative Area."

Cpl. Jin with the 35th Field Ambulance, based in Fredericton, New Brunswick, also found the visit fascinating.

"I thought it would be an interesting way to spend our day taking a look at the history of Fort McCoy," Jin said. "I was interested in learning about the history of this base and the history of the U.S. Army."

Jin particularly enjoyed the historical newspapers, as they helped immerse him into the past.

"I saw a big book of newspapers, so I took a look at that and I put myself into the shoes of someone around that era reading the newspapers and seeing the world the way they would have seen it then."

Both soldiers also appreciated the insights gained from cross-training in Fort McCoy's Global Medic exercise with the U.S. Army during their visit.

"It gives us the opportunity to engage with our allies to compare and contrast our trainings," Smith said.

"All NATO member nations are supposed to be under the same sort of NATO standards when it comes to certain things, especially like the emergency medical practices that we do. So, it's been cool to compare and contrast and see the nuances between how we do things and how the U.S. does things."

Smith encouraged other Soldiers and veterans to visit the Commemorative Area when the chance arises.

"If you have the time, absolutely cut some time out of your schedule and come down to the Commemorative Area," Smith expressed.

"They've got some really cool vehicles. The buildings are awesome. You can tell that a lot of work went into it and it's definitely something worth taking the time to appreciate."

The Canadian soldiers' visit helps highlight the importance of military collaboration and shared historical appreciation among allied forces.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on Facebook by searching "ftmccoy," on Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fortmccoywi>, and on X (formerly Twitter) by searching "usagmccoy."

Also try downloading the My Army Post app to your smartphone and set "Fort McCoy" or another installation as your preferred base.



(Above and below) Canadian armed forces members visit the post's Commemorative Area on Aug. 16 at Fort McCoy.



CHIEF

page shows he visited with numerous Soldiers completing training in the exercise in a video as well as photos. In the video he wrote about the stop.

"Getting to see a bit of the behind-the-scenes for Global Medic as part of the CSTX at Fort McCoy today," the post states at <https://www.facebook.com/ChiefofArmyReserve>. "Awesome Soldiers and Sailors making it happen and crushing the day!"

On Aug. 8, Harter spent a large amount of time in the field seeing Army Reserve Soldiers in action building their Warrior skills, honing their craft, and more. He also wrote about that in a separate Facebook post with additional photos.

"I took a tour today of the operations at the CSTX (on Fort McCoy)," the post states. "It was motivating to see so many young Soldiers hone their craft from our engineers and MPs (military police) to our our sustainers keeping the exercise going 24 hours a day!"

On Aug. 9, Harter visited with Fort McCoy Garrison leadership on various subjects. Harter visited with the installation's newest Garrison Commander Col. Sheyla Baez-Ramirez as well as Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Calarco, garrison command sergeant major, Deputy Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Mike Corkum, and Deputy to the Garrison Commander Cameron Cantlon.

"I would say their meeting went well," said Fort McCoy Garrison Executive Officer Mike Volpe. "After the meeting, Maj. Gen. Harter only had one more stop here before he was done with the overall visit."

Maj. Jon Dahl, public affairs officer for the 86th Training Division, added that in addition to visiting the Global Medic and CSTX training areas around Fort McCoy, Harter also visited the 652nd Bridging Operations on the Mississippi River in La Crosse, Wis.

Learn more about the Chief of Army Reserve by visiting <https://www.facebook.com/ChiefofArmyReserve> or at the Army Reserve webpage at <https://www.usar.army.mil>.

Learn more about the 86th Training Division by visiting <https://www.usar.army.mil/84thTC/86thTD>.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on Facebook by searching "ftmccoy," and on Twitter by searching "usagmccoy."

Also try downloading the Digital Garrison app to your smartphone



Maj. Gen. Robert D. Harter, Chief of the Army Reserve and commanding general of U.S. Army Reserve Command, visits with troops participating in the 86th Training Division's Combat Support Training Exercise 86-24-02 on Aug. 8 at Fort McCoy.

Photo by Master Sgt. Joseph Vine

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(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office, 86th Training Division Public Affairs, and with information from Chief of Army Reserve social media.)

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crossings on land by building structures or demolishing obstacles.”

Another unit present in the exercise was the 5th Battalion, 159th General Support Aviation Battalion of Fort Eustis, Va., that brought UH-60 Black Hawk and CH-47 Chinook helicopters to the training.

The helicopters and their crews ferried troops all over Fort McCoy’s 60,000-acre space, and more. They even supported the 652nd in some of their training with building bridges.

The thousands of troops also set up for training at several installation training areas to include tactical training bases, Logistical Staging Area-Freedom, Young Air Assault Strip, and even training spaces within the woods throughout North Post and South Post.

“The CSTX is really one of the best ways to try to test out the concepts of contested logistics,” Nash said in the video by Conrad. “There is no exercise like this.”

An added bonus was the support of Army engineer units completing troop projects at the installation during CSTX. Fort McCoy’s Troop Project Coordinator Larry Morrow said engineers helped get a lot of work done in a short amount of time.

Projects completed included replacing 220 feet of sidewalk on the cantonment area, improving the tubing hill at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area, trail improvement of a training area, constructing a building at one of the training areas, residing buildings and fixing fans in buildings, pouring concrete walls at a demolition range, and plumbers from engineer units working with a Fort McCoy contractor.

Morrow has always said that having troop projects completed in post is a “win-win” for everyone involved. “If we didn’t have these projects, many of these engineer troops wouldn’t get the training they need, and the installation wouldn’t benefit from the work they do to improve Fort McCoy training ranges and quality-of-life programs,” he said.

Spc. Jacob Province with the 702nd Engineer Company of Johnson City, Tenn., said CSTX was very useful training for him and his unit.

“CSTX is a training exercise that shows not only how well your company operates as a whole, but also how well you collaborate with other units in a large-scale combat scenario,” Province said. “I believe we did a great job as a whole, although there were some communication and logistic issues out of our control. The 702nd has very knowledgeable NCOs and officers who work great together. Being Soldier skills or MOS knowledge, I think we are a very well-rounded unit. We knew what was expected of us and knew how to get in and get it done. Essayons.”

Early in the exercise, Maj. Gen. Robert D. Harter, a lieutenant general selectee and the newly selected Chief of the Army Reserve and commanding general of U.S. Army Reserve Command, visited Fort McCoy and the exercise from Aug. 7-9.

Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Betty, the Army Reserve’s command sergeant major, also visited the exercise around the same time as Harter. Other distinguished visitors were also present throughout the exercise.

On Aug. 8, Harter spent a large amount of time in the field seeing Army Reserve Soldiers in action building their Warrior skills, honing their craft, and more. He also wrote about that in a Facebook post.

“I took a tour today of the operations at the CSTX on (Fort McCoy),” the post states. “It was motivating to see so many young Soldiers hone their craft from our engineers and MPs (military police) to our our sustainers keeping the exercise going 24 hours a day!”

Now looking to the future, determining the level of success from the exercise will be done as it always has been done by planners — by analyzing how the exercise best met its goals, and more.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on Facebook by searching “ftmccoy,” on Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fortmccoywi>, and on X (formerly Twitter) by searching “usagmccoy.”

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(Sgt. Haylee Smith, unit public affairs representative for 702nd Engineer Company, contributed to this article.)



(Both photos) Soldiers participating in Combat Support Training Exercise 86-24-02 move out in a convoy Aug. 12 on South Post at Fort McCoy.



Soldiers drive a convoy of vehicles over a bridge over Big Sandy Lake on Aug. 13 on South Post at Fort McCoy during the exercise.



A crew with the 5th Battalion, 159th General Support Aviation Battalion of Fort Eustis, Va., operates a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter Aug. 8 at Fort McCoy during exercise operations for Combat Support Exercise 86-24-02.

612th Engineers complete Fort McCoy sidewalk troop project during CSTX 86-24-02

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Soldiers with the Army Reserve’s 612th Engineer Detachment (Utilities) went to work on an ongoing troop project on the cantonment area at Fort McCoy and replaced a 220-foot section of sidewalk.

Fort McCoy Troop Projects Coordinator Larry Morrow with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works said it was a significant amount of work.

Soldiers with the 612th team dug out all of the 220 feet old sidewalk, put in new aggregate on the base, and set in forms to pour concrete for the new stretch of sidewalk.

“Overall, they put in 17 yards of new concrete on the new stretch of sidewalk,” Morrow said.

Units like the 612th have Soldiers who are in the 12N Army military occupational specialty (MOS) and related engineer fields. According to the Army job description for the MOS of 12N, as a horizontal construction engineer, “you’ll operate heavy construction equipment like bulldozers, tractors, backhoes, cranes, excavators, and road graders to help pave the way for fellow Soldiers and to make room for construction projects. Without safe roads to travel, it’s hard for Soldiers to move around, especially in unfamiliar territory. You’ll also assist Army engineers to analyze construction site needs and transport heavy construction equipment from one site to another.”

Learn more about this career and related engineer jobs by visiting <https://www.goarmy.com/careers-and-jobs/career-match/mechanics-engineering/design-develop/12n-horizontal-construction-engineer.html>.

The 612th was at Fort McCoy as one of many units participating in the 86th Training Division’s Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) 86-24-02.

Exercise planners with the 86th said thousands of troops overall participated in the exercise Aug. 3-17.



Soldiers with the 612th Engineer Detachment (Utilities) work on a sidewalk troop project Aug. 12 on the cantonment area at Fort McCoy.

“CSTX is designed to ensure Army Reserve units are trained and ready, able to bring combat-ready, lethal firepower in support of the Army and our joint partners anywhere in the world,” according to the 86th.

Morrow has said in past news articles that any continuing support he receives to improve Fort McCoy through troop projects is always appreciated.

“If we didn’t have these projects, many of these engineer troops wouldn’t get the training they need, and the installation wouldn’t benefit from the work they do to improve Fort McCoy training ranges and quality-of-life programs,” he said.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on Facebook by searching

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Chinook fly-by

A crew with the 5th Battalion, 159th General Support Aviation Battalion of Fort Eustis, Va., operates a CH-47 Chinook helicopter Aug. 13 over Fort McCoy during exercise operations for Combat Support Exercise 86-24-02.

The Chinook was captured as it flew past the Fort McCoy Garrison Headquarters.

The 5th Battalion, 159th General Support Aviation Battalion had not only Chinooks supporting the exercise but also UH-60 Black Hawks.

Throughout the exercise, the helicopters were supporting training scenarios and operations daily, giving the aircrews valuable experience as well as training time as well.



NEWS

Virginia Air National Guard security forces Airmen sharpen skills during joint exercise Bumbu Forge 2024 training at Fort McCoy, Volk Field

BY TECH. SGT. MICHELLE ALVAREZ AND 2ND LT. JORDAN SPOTSWOOD
192nd Wing Public Affairs

FORT MCCOY & VOLK FIELD AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Wis. — Airmen with the 192nd Security Forces Squadron (SFS), 192nd Wing, Virginia Air National Guard, honed their combat readiness during joint exercise Bumbu Forge 2024, a large-scale training exercise held June 2-16 at Fort McCoy and Volk Field (Wis.) Combat Readiness Training Center.

Designed to enhance the interoperability and readiness of the U.S. armed forces, Bumbu Forge focused on realistic combat simulations and strategic operations. The exercise involved coordinated efforts across various military branches and units, testing the participants' tactical skills and decision-making abilities in a controlled, high-intensity environment.

More than 62 units from the Air National Guard, Army National Guard, and the U.S. Air Force participated in the exercise, which consisted of two distinct phases.

During the first week, training was emphasized on expeditionary training. During this phase, the 192nd SFS played a crucial role by providing combat arms training, maintenance instruction and base defense training to combat communications and support personnel. This training proved essential in building competence and confidence when establishing bare-bones operating locations in austere environments with potential kinetic threats.

They transitioned to a readiness exercise for week two, simulating a deployment scenario with personnel operating under contested, degraded, or operationally limited conditions. This realistic environment pushed Airmen to adapt and overcome real-world challenges.

"Bumbu Forge 2024 provided invaluable real-world agile combat employment training for our security forces team and the (192nd) Mission Support Group (MSG) as a whole," said Col. Manaal "Pip-Per" Burge, 192nd MSG commander. "These exercises are critical for developing multi-capable Airmen and ensuring we are prepared to rapidly deploy and effectively support the mission in any environment. Not only was it great training for our team, but it was also a great opportunity for us to provide excellent integrated defense training to the other 900 participants."

The exercise kicked off with a night landing. Personnel with the 192nd SFS disembarked from a C-130 Hercules aircraft onto a dirt airstrip, immediately securing the airfield for follow-on C-130 operations. Follow-on flights brought in combat communications and support personnel who boarded CH-47 Chinook aircraft from the Nebraska Army National Guard for onward deployment to forward operating sites.

Throughout the exercise, 192nd SFS personnel spearheaded base defense operations, enabling combat communications and support units to focus on establishing essential communications infrastructure under challenging conditions. The Airmen benefitted from daily forward deployments via CH-47 Chinooks, allowing them to hone their tactical skills further.

"You learn what you need and don't need because you have to be



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Tia Hambrick/Texas Air National Guard

Members of the 192nd Security Forces Squadron, Virginia Air National Guard, carry out reconnaissance and assault exercises at Fort McCoy on June 9 as part of the Bumbu Forge 2024 exercise.

efficient," said Staff Sgt. Jarvis Mason, 192nd SFS journeyman. He highlighted the importance of proper supply selection while deploying with limited space aboard the Chinooks.

The exercise also included a distinguished visitor (DV) day, showcasing the training value to more than 80 DVs across the ANG. The DVs flew into the simulated deployed environment on UH-60 Black Hawks as part of a simulated combat environment and interacted with their Airmen firsthand during training.

They also had the opportunity to learn about how Bumbu Forge increased the warfighting skills and mission readiness of their Airmen in multiple different facets.

Leadership from the 192nd Wing demonstrated their support for the SFS personnel with the attendance of Burge, their group com-

mander, in addition to Chief Master Sgt. Sean J. Fretwell, 192nd Wing command chief, and Chief Master Sgt. Joseph J. Young, 192nd MSG senior enlisted leader.

Bumbu Forge culminated in a simulated kinetic attack on the main operating base, testing the security forces' ability to defend the airfield under various threats after days of continuous operations and sleeping in austere conditions.

"The planning and execution were phenomenal, incorporating all aspects of a real-world scenario," said Burge. "The realistic challenges faced at Bumbu Forge honed our skills and strengthened our ability to work together as a cohesive unit and respond effectively. Our participation in exercises like this is essential for maintaining the combat readiness of the 192nd Wing."

FOOD

from Page 1

up with the supplies of MREs, UGRs, and more outside of the SSMO in building 490. And aiding their loading was SSMO staff with forklifts.

No matter what work needed to be accomplished, Pisney said his team, like many of the other support areas at Fort McCoy, complete their work behind the scenes as efficiently as possible without interrupting the mission.

"We have many unsung heroes, especially when you are talking about this team," Pisney also said in a previous news article. "Food service is a training enabler, and we don't ever want it to be a distractor. The mission always comes first, and if we can support the mission without distracting from it — that's perfect."

Fort McCoy's motto is to be the "Total Force Training Center."

Located in the heart of the upper Midwest, Fort McCoy is the only U.S. Army installation in Wisconsin.

The installation has provided support and facilities for the field and classroom training of more than 100,000 military personnel from all services nearly every year since 1984.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on Facebook by searching "ftmccoy," on Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fortmccoywi>, and on X (formerly Twitter) by searching "usagmccoy."

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Photo by Claudia Neve

Food rations are loaded and moved outside the Fort McCoy Logistics Readiness Center Sub-sistence Supply Management Office on Aug. 14 at Fort McCoy.



Photo by Scott T. Sturkol

An Army Reserve field feeding team works in a field location Aug. 8 on South Post at Fort McCoy.

Army Reserve's 702nd Engineers upgrades Fort McCoy's Whitetail Ridge Ski Area with troop project

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL
Public Affairs Staff

Soldiers with the Army Reserve's 702nd Engineer Company, which is based in Johnson City, Tenn., spent six days in early to mid-August working on a troop project that officials say has significantly improved the snowtubing hill at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area.

Whitetail Ridge is unique in that it's one of only a few like it in the Army in use. Maintenance Supervisor/Facility Manager Alex Karis with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation said the work the Army engineers completed reshaped the tubing hill in a way that will save time and effort by ski area staff.

"They brought in a lot of dirt and completed some significant excavating," Karis said. "They helped reshape the hill and make it a little less steep."

Karis said there was a section of the hill that needed more dirt and was an issue when it came to snowmaking.

"There was spot where we had to fill in with between 10 to 25 feet of manmade snow on that hill," Karis said. "But they fixed that. Now it will only need 5 to 10 feet of manmade snow."

"They also straightened the lanes we'll have for snowtubing," he said. "They did a great job. We'll definitely put it to the test this winter. But overall, we'll reduce snowmaking time on that hill. ... We could save up to four to five days of snowmaking."

Sgt. Haylee Smith with the 702nd said the unit was working steadily on the project and hauled many, many loads of dirt to get the job done. The unit was completing its annual training at Fort McCoy as part of the 86th Training Division's Combat Support Training Exercise (CSTX) 86-24-02.

"CSTX 2024 at Fort McCoy was nothing short of interesting for the 702nd," Smith said. "The company did a phenomenal job with making the best out of some crazy situations. Operations included range day, ammo classes, improvised explosive device education, tubing slope improvements, building fighting positions, convoy missions, reacting to direct and indirect fire, night operations, and so much more."

The troop project by the 702nd was one of several being completed on Fort McCoy while CSTX was taking place Aug. 3-17. Other engineer units were completing an entire list of projects throughout the post, said Fort McCoy Troop Projects Coordinator Larry Morrow with the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works.

Morrow has said in past news articles that any continuing support he receives to improve Fort



Photos by Sgt. Haylee Smith/702nd Engineer Company

(Above and right) Work on a troop project at Whitetail Ridge Ski Area by the 702nd Engineer Company is shown Aug. 8 at Fort McCoy.

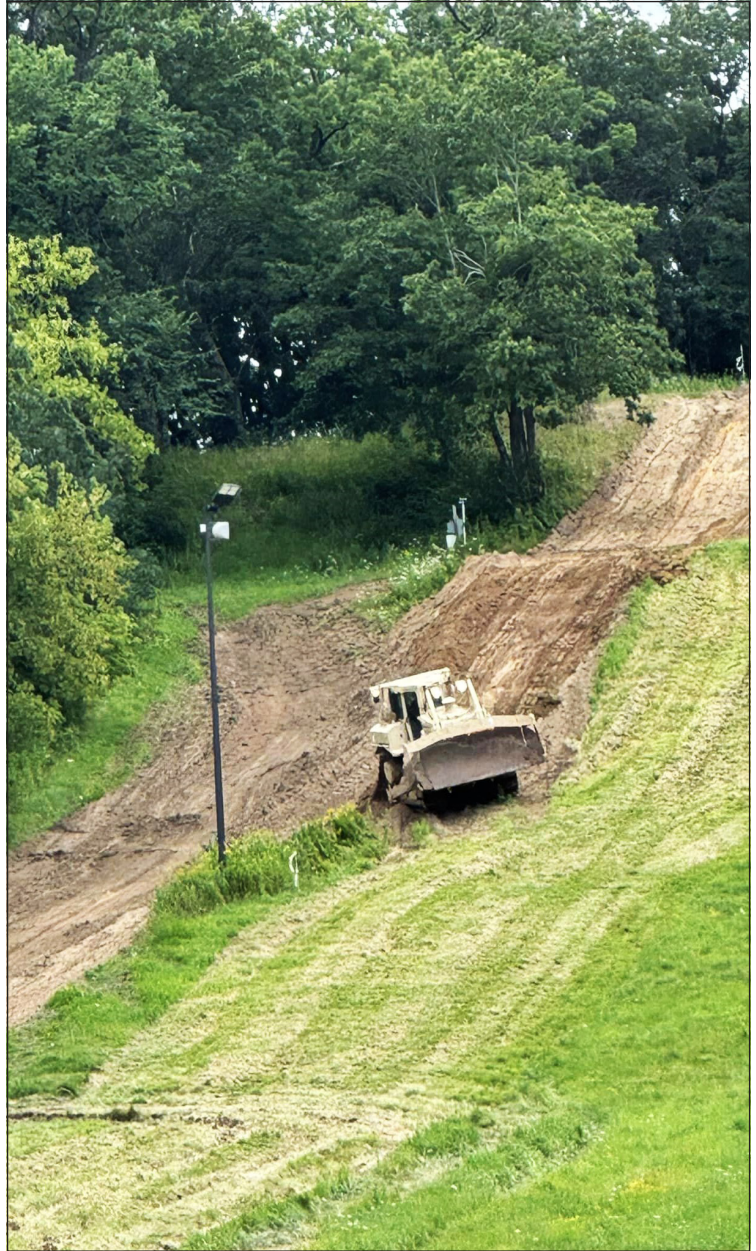
McCoy through troop projects is always appreciated. "If we didn't have these projects, many of these engineer troops wouldn't get the training they need, and the installation wouldn't benefit from the work they do to improve Fort McCoy training ranges and quality-of-life programs," he said.

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COMMUNITY

2024 training in Paralegal Warrior Training Course held at Fort McCoy

Fifty-six paralegal (27D) Soldiers from over five Army Reserve commands participated in the annual Paralegal Warrior Training Course (PWTC) hosted by the U.S. Army Reserve Command (USARC) from July 21 to Aug. 3 at Fort McCoy.

Participants of the PWTC spent a week in the classroom learning about paralegal competencies, and about another week conducting field training exercises that ranged from establishing an Office of the Staff Judge Advocate to area security operations.

The PWTC allows paralegal Soldiers in the ranks of private to master sergeant from both active- and reserve-components to enhance their technical and tactical skillsets with a focus on integrating Army regulations and policies into large-scale combat operations.

“The PWTC is crucial in ensuring that reserve- and active-component commanders have multifaceted paralegals ready to support their missions,” said Sgt. Maj. Brenda Hallows, command paralegal NCO for USARC. “When we evaluate the total amount of paralegals within the regular Army, U.S. Army Reserve, and Army National Guard, the (Army Reserve) and (National Guard) contain 50 percent of paralegals, which essentially mirrors the number of paralegals in the Regular Army. Therefore, PWTC improves the interoperability of all paralegals, particularly paralegals from the (Army Reserve) and (National Guard).”

USARC commands all Army Reserve units and is responsible for overseeing unit staffing, training, management, and deployment. For the Army Reserve, the PWTC allows paralegals to achieve unit training readiness requirements by demonstrating individual and collective task proficiencies, that aligns with the mission essential task lists of all Army Reserve commands.

“Paralegals in the (Army Reserve) who attend PWTC get the premier and most current updates on legal processes and practices,” said Col. David Barrett, acting commander for U.S. Army Reserve Command Legal Command. “The PWTC provides a unique opportunity for paralegals to cultivate knowledge and mentorship networks with their instructors and fellow students to become versatile stewards of the legal profession.”

PWTC is composed of two segments — the basic course and advanced course. The basic course and advanced course focused on topics in various disciplines to include legal assistance, military justice, national security law, contract law, administrative law, and knowledge management tools. Specific to this PWTC, students were immersed into topics and given practical exercises on the Office of the Special Trial Counsel, Army People Strategy, suicide investigations, and Department of Defense Ethics.

“PWTC has allowed me to expand my critical thinking skills on how to effectively navigate the legal processes outlined in the regular Army, (Army Reserve), and (National Guard) regulations,” said Spc. Johnna Nadeau, paralegal for the 351st Civil Affairs Command. “The instructors encouraged everyone to ask questions and I appreciated their insights on how they approached certain legal issues.”

The instructors of PWTC came from the regular Army, Army Reserve, and the National Guard, too, which provided cross-cutting best practices associated with operating in the dynamic legal sphere.

“Being an instructor at PWTC is of true importance to me as it allows me to contribute knowledge to paralegals that continue to strengthen our ability to prevail on the future battlefield,” said Sgt. 1st Class Angie Trejo, command paralegal NCO for the U.S. Special Operations Command. “PWTC is a course that prepares paralegals to become more da-



Contributed photos

(Above) A paralegal Soldier participates in a field exercise event in late July at a training area at Fort McCoy. (Below) Paralegal Soldiers complete classroom work in early August during the Paralegal Warrior Training Course at Fort McCoy.



ta-centric and adaptable in conducting legal operations within garrison and contested environments.”

“PWTC is the only course that offers a multitude of acquired knowledge sets and training for all Army paralegals and continues to serve as a build-

ing block for career progression in the legal field,” said Master Sgt. Steven Rafanan, course developer for the U.S. Army Reserve Command Legal Command.

PWTC is held annually by USARC in the month

of July. Contact your training noncommissioned officer and chain of command for more information on registering next year.

(Article prepared by U.S. Army Reserve Legal Command.)

Fort McCoy ArtiFACT: Madison cord-impressed vessels

Pre-contact pottery or ceramics, made by Native Americans, are an important time indicator at archaeological sites and have been found at Fort McCoy during more than 30 years of archaeological work. Pottery first appears in Wisconsin approximately 2,500 years ago during the Woodland cultural period (500 B.C. to A.D. 1200).

Woodland pottery has a tempering agent of sand or crushed rock (grit) mixed with the clay that helps prevent shrinking and cracking during the drying and firing process.

The designs or decorations on pottery change through time. Potters have used many methods of creating decorations, including fingernails, sharp tools, rope, cord-wrapped sticks, or stamps. Archaeologists use the type of temper and designs on ceramics to determine their age.

The Woodland cultural period is divided into three time periods: early, middle, and late. Each period’s pottery has identifying characteristics, such as vessel form and decoration. Generally, Early Woodland (500 B.C. to A.D. 100) vessels are thick and straight-walled with a flat bottom.

Middle Woodland (A.D. 100 to 500) vessels tend to be elongated jars with a conical base.

Late Woodland (A.D. 500 to 1200) vessels are globular with a conical to rounded bottom. The earliest Woodland

vessels held about half a gallon, while more recent Woodland pots held two to three gallons.

Ceramic vessels were used for cooking and storing food items. Ceramics were similar to today’s pots and pans for cooking or plastic containers for storage.

The vessel pictured is known as Madison cord-impressed pottery. Madison cord-impressed ceramics are characteristic of the Eastman phase of the Mature Late Woodland in western Wisconsin. This ceramic type dates to A.D. 700 to 1000. Madison ware ceramics typically have a rounded body with a neck narrower than the body, thin walls, and sometimes an outward-flaring rim. The base of the vessel is conical to round. The temper used in the clay is a fine, crushed grit.

The decorations on this vessel were made with a variety of cords and tools such as sharpened sticks or bone. Decoration is typically found on the rim, the neck, and the shoulder of the vessel. The rim has punctations, then the neck of the vessel has two horizontal cord impressions followed by two zones of alternating left and right cord impressions.

Each zone is separated by a smoothed band with horizontal cord impressions above and below it. The last decorative element consists of two rows of parallel punctations.

All archaeological work conducted at



Contributed photo

This is an example of Madison cord-impressed pottery found at a past archaeological dig at Fort McCoy.

Fort McCoy was coordinated by the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch.

All archaeological work conducted at Fort McCoy was sponsored by the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch.

Visitors and employees are reminded they should not collect artifacts on Fort McCoy or other government lands and leave the digging to the professionals.

Any individual who excavates, removes, damages, or otherwise alters or

defaces any post-contact or pre-contact site, artifact, or object of antiquity on Fort McCoy is in violation of federal law.

The discovery of any archaeological artifact should be reported to the Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch.

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ri-son app to your smartphone and set “Fort McCoy” or another installation as your preferred base. Fort McCoy is also part of Army’s Installation Management Command where “We Are The Army’s Home.”

(Article prepared by the Fort McCoy Archaeology Team that includes the Colorado State University’s Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands and the Fort McCoy Directorate of Public Works Environmental Division Natural Resources Branch.)

OPSEC is part of Antiterrorism Awareness Month’s ‘critical’ reminders

Every August, the U.S. Army observes Antiterrorism Awareness Month and a main part of that observance is reminding people about operations security, or OPSEC.

OPSEC is a process Soldiers, civilians, contractors and family members use to protect critical information. Soldiers use OPSEC to deny information to adversaries that would endanger the mission. Family members can use OPSEC at home and at work to prevent personal information from getting to people who want to steal from them or harm them.

Following are subjects and tips to remember regarding OPSEC.

Do you know?

- What your unit or organization’s critical information is that needs to be safeguarded.
- What critical information you are responsible for.
- How the threat is trying to obtain your critical information.
- What steps your taking to protect your critical information.
- Who your OPSEC officer is.

Critical family information to protect

- Personal and medical information
- Home address and phone numbers
- Financial information (account numbers)
- Social Security numbers
- Family member information (names/date of birth)
- Family routines and vacations
- Birth dates
- Driver’s license numbers



- Medical records
- Passwords

Follow these other steps to help keep your family safe:

— Establish security protocols on your blog or webpage, such as encryption and password protection.

— Think of public internet outlets as the front page of a local newspaper. You may be publishing useful information to criminals and terrorists.

— Enable every privacy setting on your social media platforms and set your visibility to “Friends only.”

— Ask yourself, “What could the wrong person do with this information?”

— Limit any detail about upcoming deployments, temporary duty assignments or work performed.

— Avoid providing identifying information that would allow someone to target you or your family, such as your address, the school your child attends or pictures of your child. These could provide clues that would enable predators to locate you and your family.

— Before posting a photo or video, make sure it does not give away sensitive information.

— Use an email address that does not contain personal information.

— Ensure younger members of the family understand what they can and cannot post online.

For more information about OPSEC, Antiterrorism Awareness Month, Antiterrorism awareness training, U.S. Army iWATCH, or other antiterrorism-related issues, call the Installation Antiterrorism Office at 608-388-4719.

(Article prepared by Fort McCoy Antiterrorism Office.)

HISTORY

THIS MONTH IN FORT MCCOY HISTORY

Fort McCoy, Wis., was established in 1909. Here is a look back at some installation history from August 2024 and back.

80 Years Ago — August 1944

FROM THE AUG. 5, 1944, EDITION OF THE REAL MCCOY NEWSPAPER: *McCoy Soldiers do double duty; work in war plants* — Several of Camp McCoy’s fighting men have been doing double duty recently has home front production Soldiers as well.

Members of the 978th Engineer Maintenance Company have worked in their spare time as machinists and welders in the Trane Company plant in La Crosse, Wis., helping to overcome a manpower shortage, it was revealed this week by Capt. Harry M. Ingraham, company commander, who gave them permission to take on the extra duties.

The men have spent their evenings off at the machines in the No. 2 Trane plant and some have even worked full time on their passes and furloughs in order to speed victory.

The parade to the La Crosse plant was begun by Technician 5th Grade Tom Serric, a former foreman for Shipbuilder Henry Kaiser. Serric inquired at the Trane plant whether it would be possible to work there during the off time from military duties. When his services were welcomed, he immediately sought his commander’s permission at began work in La Crosse.

So please were Trane Company officials with his work that they asked if there were any more like him back at McCoy. Soon nine more enlisted men of the 978th were working on their evening off. The others are T-3 Shearl Lemax; T-4s B.L. Stanford, Orville Clover, and Louis Topper, machinists; and T-4s Elmer Lickey and Dale Jergens; T-5s Serric and Richard Snell; Pfc. John Castle and Pvt. George Everson, welders.

FROM THE AUG. 5, 1944, EDITION OF THE REAL MCCOY NEWSPAPER: *Army’s first ‘Weasel’ here; post major rebuilding depot* (By Sgt. William Norton) — The first “weasel,” the Army’s snow jeep which runs on Caterpillar tracks ever manufactured is at Camp McCoy, Col. George MacMullin, post commander, revealed this week as the War Dept. lifted the veil of secrecy which for two years had concealed the facts on the amazing vehicle.

During this time, Camp McCoy has been one of the Army’s major overhauling stations for M28 and M29 cargo carriers, as the original and improved models of the vehicle are known, Maj. Robert K. Sawyer, chief of McCoy Combined Maintenance Shops announced. Hundreds of “weasels” have been processed in the post maintenance shops this spring and summer, he said.

Travels over 35 mph: About 250 of them, many from Camp Hale, the Army winter training center in Colorado, were rushed through the shops in six days for a rush shipment overseas, Maj. Sawyer revealed. It was accomplished through the whole-hearted cooperation of the 271st Ordnance Maintenance Company, WACs and Soldiers of the 1620 H & S Company, working night and day, Maj. Sawyer said.

The weasel will travel 35 miles per hour, and the 20-inch-wide tracks of the M29 will carry it over the deepest snow and through swampy muskeg. It is semi-amphibious with a water-tight body whose light construction permits it to travel through wet swamps where its tracks can barely grip the bottom. The weasel charges over underbrush and woods without any trouble.

FROM THE AUG. 12, 1944, EDITION OF THE REAL MCCOY NEWSPAPER: *Ex-76th Soldier wins DSM; decorated by Montgomery* — A former 76th Division Soldier, 1st Sgt. Leonard G. Lomell, 25, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Lomell, Trenton Ave., Point Pleasant, won two awards for heroism on the Normandy beachhead on D-Day (June 6, 1944) when he was wounded.

Honored with the Distinguished Service Medal, Sgt. Lomell received the British Military Medal from the hands of Gen. Sir Bernard Montgomery, famed English commander, in person.

Sgt. Lomell, a Ranger, is back with his unit after three weeks in an English hospital. In the Army two years, Sgt. Lomell has been overseas since last November. He we direct to the battlefield from the 76th Infantry Division.

Lomell served the majority of his time in the 76th with the 417th Infantry Regiment. He was in regimental headquarters company.

60 Years Ago — August 1964

FROM THE AUG. 14, 1964, EDITION OF THE REAL MCCOY NEWSPAPER: *Camp McCoy Airfield busy place this summer* — From May 12 until Sept. 1, the airstrip on the South Post is the scene of some of the busiest activity at Camp McCoy.

Between these two dates, an estimated 3,500 to 4,000 landings will take place on the airstrip’s two 4,200-foot runways. Under the command of Capt. Robert J. Jones of Fort Carson, Colo., the officers and enlisted men at the airport provide aircraft and instruction for Reserve aviation units or personnel, give tactical aviation support for various field and training maneuvers, and fly in VIPs from throughout the Midwest.

The enlisted men are all in the 5011th U.S. Army Garrison and live right at the airport in Quonset huts. Also at the airstrip are military firefighters who on duty at all times. They are under the supervision of the post fire marshal and keep up 24-hour surveillance.

There are many fixed wing aircraft and helicopters available, and the airstrip is equipped to handle planes as large as a C-47. The only restriction on the size of the aircraft is due to the softness of the surface on the runways.

The control tower has absolute control over all air space above Camp McCoy up to 20,000 feet. Civilian aircraft cannot fly over the post within this 20,000-foot limit. Also, military aircraft are kept away from areas where there is artillery and small arms firing. Information on this is gathered daily and plotted on the large range map in the airport office.

The original airstrip was located near what is now gate 14 when the reservation was known as Camp Robinson. This was in 1937. In 1941 the runways were extended and surfaced. Through the years have been made until today. There are facilities for all types of day and night operations except actual instrument approach.

50 Years Ago — August 1974

FROM THE AUG. 8, 1974, EDITION OF THE REAL MCCOY NEWSPAPER: *444th Quartermaster Company keeps the fuel flowing* — Over 400,000 gallons of fuel are pumped daily into National Guard and Reserve units in the field by the men of the 444th Quartermaster Petroleum Company.

The Lordstown, Ohio, unit has the capacity to pump 1,300,000 gallons of fuel daily when all of its pumps are in use. The fuel tanks, dumping 350 gallons per minute to an estimated 58 units, are operational around-the-clock and handle the heavy demands of the using units.

The 444th has a secondary mission of ensuring all of its personnel are proficient in driving jeeps; trucks, the 20-ton crane, and bulldozers. Back at their home station, the 444th has been active in several community action projects including building baseball fields for many of the local communities and participating in the Youngstown, Ohio, “Project Clean Up” about six months ago.

The unit has sponsored Boy Scout Explorer Post 133 for the past two years. There are five girls in the post joining the 12 boys ranging in age from 13-18. All of the scouts receive instruction

Took Him Two Rounds But 385th Alumnus Got Sniper

It took him two rounds to zero in; but he got his sniper, writes Pfc. Edward J. Skrzydlowski, formerly with B Company, 385th Infantry Regiment, and now in combat somewhere in France. Skrzydlowski’s letter, one of several received from former B Company men now overseas, reveals he has learned where to spot German snipers in the rows of hedges, trees or brush that dot the countryside. Before approaching any of this growth, he first covers them with a heavy stream of rifle fire. Then he

checks the results. Since arriving in France, Pfc. Francis Price has earned his staff sergeant’s stripes by knocking out an enemy machine gun nest. Wounded in the course of this action, Price has been awarded the Purple Heart. He writes he spent 43 days of constant fighting and had his first hot meal since going into action after his return to the rear for a rest. Another casualty is Pfc. Fred Davidson Jr. who has been hospitalized to England from wounds received at the front.

This is a news clipping from the Aug. 5, 1944, edition of The Real McCoy newspaper at then-Camp McCoy.

Army’s First ‘Weasel’ Here; Post Major Rebuilding Depot

Veil Of Secrecy Lifted After Two Years

By Sgt. William Norton
The first “weasel,” the Army’s “snow jeep” which runs on caterpillar tracks, ever manufactured is at Camp McCoy, Col. George M. MacMullin, post commander, revealed this week as the War Dept. lifted the veil of secrecy which for two years had concealed the facts on the amazing vehicle.

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Harmon Weasel Report
The M28, the original model, has a two-place, tandem-arranged cockpit. Its tracks are only 15 inches wide, and mechanical difficulties as a result of sloping boggy wheels on which the track runs, it often has to be towed off. The improved model, the M29, with straight boggy wheels, has no trouble. It carries four people, three in seats across the rear and the driver at the left front beside the engine.

Weasel expert at the automation shop is Steven H. Brown, an employee, who three months ago finished among the top stud-



OVER THE HILLS—Obstacles like hills, ditches and rugged terrain don’t hold terrors for the Army’s “weasel.” Secret for two years until the Army recently gave out facts on its makeup and purposes, the weasel is one of the most useful weapons in the American arsenal. Camp McCoy’s shops have repaired hundreds of these weapons for use in combat areas. (U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo).

All Soldiers to Get Chance To Vote, Aim of Officials

Regulation is pending! Applications for state absentee ballots for the November general election will be distributed to units on the post about Aug. 23. Maj. Charles Mac Kirby, post adjutant, revealed at a meeting of the units’ soldier-voting officers Tuesday in Bldg. 2117.

Lt. Col. Paul Berkey, executive officer of the 17th Headquarters detachment, 2nd Army Special Troops, told the assembled officers of the responsibility of commanding officers to provide opportunities for servicemen to vote.

Warning that efforts to influence soldiers’ votes are prohibited, Capt. Benjamin S. Harris, post personnel affairs officer,

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NEWS NOTES/FACILITIES



VENDORS NEEDED

For Fort McCoy MWR's
2024 FALL FEST

OCT 12 | 1-6 PM | WHITETAIL RIDGE
8061 SOUTH F STREET FORT MCCOY, WI

CALL 608.388.5358 OR 502.898.5358 FOR MORE INFO

Pre-retirement briefing planned for November

On Nov. 16, the Fort McCoy Garrison Soldier for Life-Retirement Services Office (SFL-RSO) will be conducting a pre-retirement briefing in building 905 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The purpose of the pre-retirement briefing is to provide an overview of retirement benefits and entitlements. This briefing is intended for Soldiers and their families transitioning from active duty to retirement and is an Army requirement.


Per Army Regulation 600-8-7, Chapter 4, states that "All RA Soldiers and RC Soldiers with 20 or more years of active federal service will receive the DA retirement planning briefing, including an Survivor Benefit Plan briefing, at least 12 to 24 months before their retirement dates or for medical retirements at the start of the medical retirement process.

In cases where a Soldier requests to retire in less than 12 months, the Soldier will attend the next group retirement planning briefing or receive an individual retirement planning brief from a retirement service officer (RSO)."

Some of the topics that will be covered include TriCare, retirement pay, and the Survivor Benefit Plan.

Reserve service members are encouraged to contact their servicing readiness division RSO for information on Reserve-related pre-retirement briefings.

For more information on local Reserve-related



YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

Tell us what programs & events you would like to see offered at Fort McCoy. Participants will receive a FREE meal at McCoy's!

SEPTEMBER 18, 2024
McCOY'S COMMUNITY CENTER

9 AM Military Retirees & DoD Civilians
10:30 AM Soldiers & Family Members

CALL 608-388-2362 TO REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE

pre-retirement briefings, contact the 88th Readiness Division RSO office at Fort McCoy at usarmy.usarc.88-rd.mbx.retirement-services1@army.mil or 608-388-7448.

For questions and registration information for the Fort McCoy Garrison SFL-RSO pre-retirement briefing, contact the Garrison SFL-RSO at usarmy.mccoy.id-readiness.mbx.dhr-rso@army.mil or call 608-388-3716.

People can also register for the Nov. 16 pre-retirement seminar by following this link: <https://einventions.afit.edu/inv/index.cfm?i=891004&k=0A6843097B53>.

ID Card Section in 2187

Effective since April 12, the Fort McCoy Personnel Services Branch moved from building 35 to building 2187. Appointments are required for the ID section. Call 608-388-4563 to verify the ID Section is operational, as well as to verify which documents will be required to get an ID card or make any changes to DEERS.

Next issue of The Real McCoy

The next edition of The Real McCoy will be published Sept. 13, 2024. The deadline for submissions or article ideas is Sept. 4, 2024.

If your unit is at Fort McCoy for training, you have some award-winning people, or if you have something newsworthy, please pass it along to the newspaper staff. For more information, call 608-388-4128.



3-ON-3 PAINTBALL TOURNAMENT

WHITETAIL RIDGE
AUG 29, 2024 | 3:00 PM

3:30-4:00 PM LEADERSHIP FORUM
4:00 PM PAINTBALL TOURNAMENT

OPEN TO ALL FORT MCCOY SOLDIERS, FAMILIES & CIVILIANS

Free Appetizers (while supplies last) · Prizes Awarded Throughout the Night!

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON TRIAD CUP EVENTS, REGISTRATION & RULES, VISIT [MCCOY.ARMYMWR.COM](https://mccoy.armymwr.com), SCAN THE QR CODE OR CALL 608-388-2290

@FortMcCoyMWR



CAMPING IS IN-TENTS
at Pine View Campground

To make reservations, please call 608-388-3517
Group Tents Sites Available

www.mccoy.armymwr.com

2024-25 FORT MCCOY GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE: The 2024-25 Fort McCoy Guide is now available throughout the installation in news stands and at the Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office. Call 608-388-2407 for extra copies. Also go online to <https://www.dvidshub.net/publication/issues/71107> to see the online version.



Dining Facilities
Building 50 operates April-September.
Building 1362 operates October-March
- Offers full meal service

- Military members, military family members, and Department of Defense (DOD) civilians on official orders for temporary duty training may use dining facilities.

- DOD civilians working on Fort McCoy and retired military personnel may use dining facilities when MWR facilities are not open.

- Units must coordinate through the Food Program Management Office at 608-388-6518/4739.

Open Hours
Breakfast: 6-8 a.m.
Lunch: 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Dinner: 5-6:30 p.m.

Rates per meal
Breakfast - \$4.35
Lunch - \$7.00
Dinner: \$6.05

Other Dining

McCoy's Community Center: Building 1571. Catering/administration, call 608-388-2065. Building 1571. Open 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. Call 608-388-7060.

Snack Avenue: Building 1538. Located inside Express. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604 or 608-388-4343.

Specialty Express Food Court: Building 1538. Open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Limited seating available. Delivery available to South Post and in cantonment area. Call 608-269-5615, ext. 303.

Whitetail Ridge Chalet/Ten Point Pub: Open during regular ski area hours. Call 608-388-3517.

Recreation

Automotive Skills Center: Building 1763. Open 1-9 p.m. Thur.-Fri. and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sat.-Sun. Call 608-388-3013.

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS): Call 608-388-3200.

iSportsman: Portal for outdoor recreational activities, registration and check-in required. Register, apply for permits, and sign in or out of recreation areas at <https://fmmccoy.sportsman.net>.

McCoy's Community Center: Building 1571. Offers books, arcade, gaming area, and bowling. Open 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Tues.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat. (Bar, food, bowling). Call 608-388-7060.

Bowling Center: Open 11 a.m.-10 p.m. Tues.-Fri. and 4-10 p.m. Sat.

Leisure Travel Services Office: Open 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3011.

Pine View Campground/Recreational Equipment Checkout Center: Campground opens May 1. Building 8053. Call 608-388-2619/3517.

Recreation Accommodations: Open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tues.-Fri. Mon. by appointment only. Call 608-388-2029.

Rumpel Fitness Center: Building 1122. Open 5 a.m.-8 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Sat.-Sun. 24/7 access available. Call 608-388-2290. Use designated parking areas.

Sportsman's Range: Closed for the season. Call 608-388-9162 for information.

Tactics Paintball/Laser Tag: By appointment only; 2-day notice required. Call 608-388-3517.

Whitetail Ridge Ski Area: Closed for Season. Call 608-388-4498 or 608-388-3517 for more information.

Services

Barber Shop (Exchange): Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-269-1710.

Car Rentals (Enterprise): Information available at the Exchange, building 1538. Use the phone at the Enterprise sign. Call 608-782-6183 or 800-654-3131; use CDP# 1787245.

Car Wash: Building 1568. Offers self-service and automatic bays and vacuums. Open 24/7.

May close during extremely cold weather. Accepts cash or credit cards. Call 608-388-4161.

Commissary: Building 1537. Open 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mon.-Sat. Call 608-388-3542/3543.

Computer Lab: Building 50, room 100A. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Computers, projector, printer, scanner, fax machine available. Call ahead for availability. Call 608-388-2474.

CWT (Carlson Wagonlit Travel) SatoTravel: Building 2180. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. No walk-ins. Call 608-388-2370, 608-269-4560, or 800-927-6343.

Education/Learning Center: Building 50, room 123. Open 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon.-Fri. No walk-ins. Email darrell.l.hawkins.ctr@mail.mil to schedule tests. Email connie.j.schauer.civ@mail.mil for other services.

Equal Employment Opportunity: Open 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri. No walk-ins. Call 608-388-3106/3107 or email usarmy.usarc.usarc-hq.mbx.eeo@mail.mil.

Exchange: Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604.

ID Card/DEERS Section: Building 2187. Open 8-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m. Mon.-Wed. and Fri. and 9:30-11:30 a.m. and 12:30-3:30 p.m. Thur. Call 608-388-4563.

IHG Army Hotels: Building 51. Open 24/7. Call 608-388-2107 or 877-711-TEAM (8326).

Installation Legal Office: Building 2171. Call 608-388-2165.

Launderette/Dry Cleaning: Building 1538. Open 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-269-1075.

Laundry Facilities: Open 24/7. Exclusively for use by Soldiers training on Fort McCoy. Civilian, family members, and retired military members are not authorized to use these facilities. Call 608-388-3800 to find out which buildings are open.

Military Clothing: Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sun. Call 608-269-5604, ext. 203.

Military Personnel: Building 2187. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. By appointment only.

facilities services

This schedule is projected through Sept. 12, 2024.
Hours of operation and services can change frequently.
Call facilities to verify hours before traveling.

Bold, italic typeface indicates a change since the last publication.

In/Out-processing: 608-388-4822.
Personnel Automations: 608-388-4842.
Reassignments: 608-388-4746.
Records Update: 608-388-5677.
Centralized Promotions: 608-388-5677.

Multimedia/Visual Information: Building 2113. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. DA/command photos are by appointment only. Schedule at <https://ivos.army.mil> or call 608-388-4520.

Official Mail Distribution Center: Building 1009 (by Gate 20). Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3205.

Patriot Outfitters: Building 1538. Closed until further notice. Call 608-269-1115.

Permit Sales: Building 2168. Hunting, fishing, and firearm permits. Open 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Check fmmccoy.sportsman.net for updates. Call 608-388-3337.

Personal Property Processing Office: Building 200. Open 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Call 608-388-3060, fax: 608-388-5634, email: usarmy.mccoy.asc.mbx.lrc-pppo@mail.mil.

Retirement Services Office: Building 2187. Open 7:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Mon.-Fri. By appointment only. Call 608-388-3716.

R.I.A. Credit Union: Building 1501. Open 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and 2-4 p.m. Tues. and Thurs. ATMs are located in building 1501 (available 24/7); McCoy's, building 1571; Exchange, building 1538; and IHG Army Hotels, building 51 (available 24/7). Call 608-388-2171.

Service Station/Express/Class VI: Building 1538. Open 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mon.-Sat. and 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sun. Call 608-388-4343. Pay-at-the-pump gas is open 24/7.

Transition Service Center: Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. By appointment only. Call 608-388-7956.

Visitor Control Center: Building 35. Open 6 a.m.-2 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Passes issued at Main Gate outside of VCC hours. Physical Security open for fingerprints Thur. only; call 608-388-2266. See ID/DEERS section for its hours.

Family Support

Army Community Service: Building 2111. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 608-388-3505.

Army Substance Abuse Program: Building 1344. Open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. By appointment only. Call 608-388-2441.

gency assistance. For other Red Cross services, call 600-837-6313 or 608-788-1000.

School Age/Youth Center: Building 1792. Activities for youth kindergarten through 12th grade. Offers after-school, non-school, and inclement weather care for eligible youth. Open: M-F: 6:30 am - 5:30 pm; Summer & Non-School Days: 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm. After School Call: 608-388-4373. Childcare requests should be made at <https://public.militarychildcare.csd.disa.mil/mcc-central/mcchome>.

Health Care

Alcoholics Anonymous: For more information, call 608-388-5955/2441.

Fort McCoy Civilian Employee Assistance Program: Screening and referral services for civilian employees and Family members experiencing difficulties due to problems related to substance abuse, mental health, marital/family discord, or other causes. By appointment only. Call 608-388-2441/5955.

Fort McCoy Sexual Harassment/Assault Response & Prevention (SHARP): 24/7 hot-line: 608-388-3000.

Occupational Health Clinic: Building 1679. Open 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. By appointment only. Call 608-388-8461.

TRICARE: TRICARE North Region, 877-874-2273; TRICARE West Region, 877-988-9378; TRICARE South Region, 800-444-5445; TRICARE for Life, 866-773-0404; or www.tricare.mil.

Worship

Catholic: Chapel 10, building 1759. 9:15 a.m. Sun. Limited capacity. No fellowship. Services also available through Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/FIMcCoyRSO>. Call 608-388-3528.

Protestant: Building 50. 11 a.m. Sun. Limited capacity. No fellowship. Services also available through Facebook Live at <https://www.facebook.com/FIMcCoyRSO>. Call 608-388-3528.

All Faiths, self-worship: Sun. Building 2672, 10 a.m.-3p.m.

Fellowship: Sun. Building 2675, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Other faiths in the local area: Please call the RSO office at 608-388-3528 or check our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/FIMcCoyRSO>.

Counseling: Please call the on-call duty chaplain at 608-630-6073.

Organizations

American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), Local 1882: Call 608-388-1882.

Reserve Officers Association, Fort McCoy-Readiness 43: For more information, call 920-535-0515 or email justdave49@centurylink.net.

Sgt. Audie Murphy Club: Email michael.p.gibson.mil@mail.mil for information.

USO Wisconsin at Fort McCoy: Building 1501. 10th Ave.
Hours:
— School year - Thurs-Fri 10 am -4 pm, Sat noon-4 pm
— Summer - Tues-Fri 10 am - 6 pm, Sat Noon -8 pm

For more information or to volunteer, call 414-477-7279 or email esokol@uso.org.

Warrant Officers Association, Chapter 0317: For more information, email usawoamccoy@outlook.com.

KNOW SOMEONE EXPERIENCING ABUSE OR NEEDING HELP?

LOCAL RESOURCES

Fort McCoy Family Advocacy Program
Brittany Sonie 608-388-2412/3505

Child Protective Services Monroe County
Report Child Abuse and/or Neglect 608-269-8854

*After business hours, call 911 and or Fort McCoy DES at 608-388-2000 to report Domestic Abuse or Child abuse

Victim Advocacy Services 608-630-7473

*After business hours, call 911 and or Fort McCoy DES at 608-388-2000 to report Domestic Abuse or Child abuse

Brighter Tomorrows

Monroe County Domestic Violence Shelter Crisis Hotline: 1-888-886-2327

www.endabusewi.org

Call ACS at 608-388-3505 for additional information

NATIONAL RESOURCES

Domestic Abuse Hotline
1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or www.hotline.org

National Stalking Resources
1-800-394-2255

National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline: 988



GIANT VOICE EMERGENCY-NOTIFICATION SIGNALS			
CONDITION	IF YOU HEAR	THIS INDICATES	INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS
Natural Disaster	3- to 5-minute steady tone or voice announcement	Disaster imminent or in progress. Examples: Tornado, flash flood, hazardous-materials release, wildfire.	Be alert. Ensure all personnel are warned. Take cover by evacuating to a safe location or sheltering in place. Notify supervisor of location. Tune in to local radio or TV stations for emergency information.
Attack	30-sec. to 5-min. wavering tone or voice announcement	Attack imminent or in progress. Examples: Vehicle bomb, terrorist action, release of biological or radioactive materials.	Be alert. Ensure all personnel are warned. Implement force-protection condition (FPCON) procedures as indicated. Take cover by evacuating to a safe location or sheltering in place. Notify supervisor of location.
All Clear	Voice announcement	Immediate threat from disaster or attack is over.	Be alert for secondary hazards. Account for all personnel. Check building. Await instructions on FPCON level. Report fires, injuries and other hazards.

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Editorial Content608-388-4128

Read this publication online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>.

FIREARM REGISTRATION POLICY

All privately owned firearms brought on the installation must be registered through the Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) Police Department.

Firearm registration is required by Army Regulation 190-11, 4-5, "Privately owned weapons and ammunition."

Firearms are required to be registered prior to entrance or immediately upon entering any lands identified as Fort McCoy property. For more information, call 608-388-2266.

COMMUNITY

Fort McCoy supports Sparta, Monroe County National Night Out 2024 events

BY SCOTT T. STURKOL & CLAUDIA NEVE
Public Affairs Staff

Police personnel with Fort McCoy’s Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) took numerous vehicles and equipment to support the 21st annual Monroe County National Night Out event Aug. 6 in Tomah, Wis., and the third National Night Out event, also Aug. 6, in Sparta, Wis.

Hundreds of people attended each event. The Monroe County National Night Out was held for four hours at Tomah’s Recreation Park. It was the second time at that park. Sparta’s National Night Out event was held at the city’s Memorial Park.

Introduced in 1984 by the National Association of Town Watch, National Night Out is a nonprofit crime-prevention organization that works in cooperation with thousands of crime-watch groups and law-enforcement agencies throughout the country. Representatives of the Tomah Police Department said local officials know it helps build relationships that help create safe communities.

Fort McCoy DES had numerous pieces of equipment and vehicles as well as more than a dozen people from both the police and fire departments at both events. Fort McCoy police personnel also educated people about Operation Family Safe at the Sparta National Night Out, which included EZ child-identification (ID) stations that provided ID materials for dozens of children.

At the Tomah event, Fort McCoy had vehicles and equipment displayed, including a new inflatable “football” game.

“We got the game just under a couple months ago,” said Fort McCoy Police Chief Brian Bomstein. “This was the first event where it was used.”

Police Operations Capt. Jeffrey Kingsley of Fort McCoy DES has been to every National Night Out event for Fort McCoy since he started working at the installation in 2011. He described the installation’s involvement in the Sparta event.

“We came to the Sparta National Night Out ... where we do Easy Child ID System, which is a system that parents can bring their kids in, they can get them fingerprinted, it takes their picture, and also does a short interview and gets some information on them,” Kingsley said. “So, that way if unfortunately something happens to a child, they have something they can give to the law enforcement to help them locate them.”

Kingsley also described how the National Night Out events are helpful with community policing.

“It’s very important because it shows that Fort McCoy interacts with the community really well, and to be honest, a lot of the officers we have live in the communities themselves,” Kingsley said. “So, they may work at Fort McCoy, but they live in Sparta. And so they’re interacting with their neighbors, with their friends. It’s a really great opportunity.

“Community policing is really important,” Kingsley said. “We take it very seriously. It’s a chance we get to go out and interact with the community and that is a good thing. You build those relationships outside of the more stressful times you may interact with them. So, if I can go and talk to you outside of when I have to come and talk to you for something official, it makes it a little bit easier. It makes people more comfortable talking to us and coming to us with issues and problems that they have.”

And in all of his time supporting National Night Out, Kingsley said he’s always enjoyed it.

“We’re just really happy to be here,” he said. “We always enjoy it. We always get a great turnout with kids at both events.”

Police Lt. Matt Brigson with Fort McCoy DES was one of the officers supporting the Monroe County National Night Out in Tomah. He said it went well, and he enjoyed being a part of that event.

“I think it’s very important that we get out and engage with the community that we serve, because we serve the community,” Brigson said. “Therefore, it’s very important that we connect with that community and for us to get to know them, and for them to get to know us better. That just helps us to be able to serve the community better than if we were to have no interaction at all.

Conservation Officer Chris Larson, also with Fort McCoy DES, also finds National Night Out as an opportunity to tell people more about Fort McCoy and the opportunities there.

“We’re one of the law enforcement agencies in the area, and we bring out a lot of our equipment that we utilize,” Larson said. “So the general public has a better understanding of what Fort McCoy offers. We have a lot of recreational opportunities (for) fishing and hiking that is open to the public. ... A lot of people think it’s a military installation, so they’re not allowed to go out there. So, we want to make sure that people understand that they are allowed. They are able to come out to Fort McCoy. This also gives us a chance to give people a better understanding of what Fort McCoy employees do for the area.”

In addition to Fort McCoy people and equipment, each event also had dozens of not-for-profit organizations with various exhibits, information booths, and displays on subjects like nutrition, school bus safety, biking safety, storm spotting, parenting, water safety, electricity safety, seatbelt use, boating safety, all-terrain vehicle safety, poison control, mental health, and first aid.

The next National Night Event for Monroe County and Sparta are planned for August 2025.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on Facebook by searching “ftmccoy,” and on Twitter by searching “usagmccoy.”

Also try downloading the Digital Garrison app to your smartphone and set “Fort McCoy” or another installation as your preferred base. Fort McCoy is also part of Army’s Installation Management Command where “We Are The Army’s Home.”



Photos by Scott T. Sturkol

(Above and below) Members of the public check out the Fort McCoy display at the Sparta National Night Out event Aug. 6 in Sparta, Wis. Members of the Fort McCoy Directorate of Emergency Services Police Department set up vehicles and equipment as well as Easy Child ID stations at the event supporting National Night Out.



Photo by Claudia Neve

Fort McCoy Deputy Police Chief Brian Lord visits with children as they check out an all-terrain vehicle Aug. 6 during the Monroe County National Night Out event in Tomah, Wis.

New interactive football game at DES scores big at 2024 National Night Out in Tomah

STORY & PHOTO BY CLAUDIA NEVE
Public Affairs Staff

On Aug. 6, 2024, Fort McCoy’s Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) made a memorable impact at Tomah, Wisconsin’s National Night Out with their interactive football game.

Along with two vehicles, Fort McCoy’s DES brought a custom inflatable football tossing game, which quickly became popular with the young crowd. This interactive football and police-themed display featured the Fort McCoy Police badge at its center, surrounded by an assortment of donuts and pairs of handcuffs, offering players fun yet challenging targets for their throws.

Children were particularly drawn to this game, lining up to test their aim and skills. The consistent participation from young attendees kept up throughout the night. Even some adults couldn’t resist the challenge, joining in to see if they could make the perfect throw along with their kids.

Fort McCoy’s involvement at the event showed their commitment to community engagement, as well as helping kids learn that Fort McCoy officers are approachable and happy to help, making National Night Out an exciting and memorable experience for everyone involved.

National Night Out is part of a nationwide initiative established in 1984 by the National Association of Town Watch, aimed at fostering community ties and promoting crime prevention.

Fort McCoy’s motto is to be the “Total Force Training Center.” Located in the heart of the upper Midwest, Fort McCoy is the only U.S. Army installation in Wisconsin.

The installation has provided support and facilities for the field and classroom training of more than 100,000 military personnel from all services nearly every year since 1984.

Learn more about Fort McCoy online at <https://home.army.mil/mccoy>, on Facebook by searching “ftmccoy,” on Flickr at <https://www.flickr.com/photos/fortmccoywi/>, and on X (formerly Twitter) by searching “usagmccoy.” Also try downloading the My Army Post app to your smartphone and set “Fort McCoy” or another installation as your preferred base. Fort McCoy is also part of Army’s Installation Management Command where “We Are The Army’s Home.”



Community members test their skills with Fort McCoy Directorate of Emergency Services interactive inflatable football game Aug. 6 as part of the Monroe County National Night Out event in Tomah, Wis.



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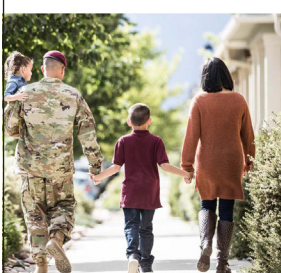
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Monroe County Chronic Wasting Disease

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Sponsored by the Monroe County CWD Task Force - Monroe County CDC, Coulee Country NDA, WI DNR, and Fort McCoy

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Informative presentations from DNR Biologists, Landowners, & Hunters:

CWD History in WI & Current status

2024 Deer Season structure & Opportunities

CWD Best Management Practices

Hands on Learning Opportunities:

Learn how the DNR removes Lymph Nodes for testing

Using a CWD self-serve sampling kiosk

Refreshments & Snacks will be provided

Contact Us with questions
608-269-8973



4 PM - 6:30 PM

05
SEPTEMBER

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For Additional Information contact
Ashley Sivert at, ashley.n.sivert.naf@army.mil
or call **502-898-5358**